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February 19, 2003 LB 143

currently being funded out of General Funds. It would be appropriate to use Integrated Solid Waste Management Funds to provide the funding associated with cleanup and proper disposal of spilled materials and associated waste. The department does respond to release assignment programs. They do respond to spills and other environmental emergencies, and would allow funds to be used for that instead of General Funds. Basically, this is giving the Department of Environmental Quality more flexibility on how they license our solid waste landfills, our transfer stations, the compost sites, and the material recovery sites. If you have any questions, I would be glad to try and answer them.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock You've heard the opening on LB 143. (Doctor of the day introduced.) On with discussion. There are committee amendments. Senator Schrock, as Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, the committee amendments were the concept of Senator Preister. And they would allow the funds to be used to seek recovery of expenses incurred in responding to spills or environmental emergencies, from the responsible party. So if the responsible party can be found, and they have a clean-up site or a problem, that can be done...that can be recovered from the responsible party, instead of General Funds being used for that. Senator Preister brought this to us in committee. It was his concept. I'm sorry he's not here this morning to respond to that. But the committee thought this was a good idea, and so we did add this amendment onto the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the opening on the committee amendments to LB 143 offered by Senator Schrock, Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee. Open for discussion on those committee amendments. Senator Schrock, there are no. Senator Schrock waives the opportunity to close. Senator Wehrbein, did you wish to speak to committee amendments? Was your light on? You may speak to the committee amendments. I'm sorry about that.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you. When I looked, it was on,